

Greater Dandenong Council News

Discover Dandenong Creek Festival

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Customer Service Centres

Dandenong Civic Centre

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Springvale Community Hub

5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale

Keysborough Customer Service

Shop A7 Parkmore Shopping Centre,
Keysborough

All correspondence to:

Greater Dandenong Council News

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Dandenong VIC 3175

Email: news@cgd.vic.gov.au



Phone: 8571 1000



www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



@greaterdandy



facebook.com/greaterdandenong



cityofgreaterdandenong



youtube.com/citygreaterdandenong



TTY: 133 677

Speak and listen: 1300 555 727

relayservice.gov.au



TIS: 131 450



council@cgd.vic.gov.au

Important Numbers

Emergency calls

Police / Fire / Ambulance.....000

Street lighting faults /

non-operational

United Energy..... 13 20 99

Traffic signal faults /

non-operational..... 8571 1000

Hoon Hotline..... 1800 333 000

Hard Waste Collection

WM Waste Management

Services..... 9721 1915

Australian Animal

Protection Society..... 9798 8415

RSPCA..... 9224 2222

Nurse on Call..... 1300 606 024

Non Urgent Police Response

(no sirens)..... 131 444

Dandenong Police..... 9767 7444

Springvale Police..... 8558 8600

Information in this publication is correct at the time of printing and is subject to change. For updates please visit our website and social media platforms.

Mayor's message

Welcome to the April edition of Greater Dandenong Council News.

We are excited to share that Council has awarded the building contract for the \$22 million Keysborough South Community Hub, with construction to start mid year. See page 3 for more details.

This month we celebrate Keysborough's Big Picnic with a day of free entertainment and activities on Sunday 2 April. See page 3 for more information.

If you enjoy getting out in nature the Discover Dandenong Creek Festival is happening on Thursday 20 April. Meet our cover star Harry Habitat and learn about how we can protect the creek and build a greener future for all. See page 6 for details.

School holidays are coming up and across Council we run a lot of fun activities and programs to keep children and young people busy. Find out what our Youth and Family Services have planned on page 11 or check out our libraries' events on page 12. If your children are into the arts see pages 9 and 13 for some great entertaining ideas.

The Noble Park CFA is also offering a free smoke alarm installation program to all households. Make sure your loved ones are protected, find out more on page 15.

We also acknowledge the significant service of our ANZACs on Tuesday 25 April.

I wish you all a wonderful month as daylight savings ends and many celebrate Easter.

If you see me out and about at any of our community events please come up and say hello.

Mayor
Cr Eden Foster

My City

Gardens for Wildlife

Did you know the yellow-tailed black cockatoo is the Greater Dandenong Gardens for Wildlife mascot? The Gardens for Wildlife program is run in collaboration with Council and volunteer community members to support residents to create an inviting habitat for local wildlife in their own backyard.

For more information and to get involved visit

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/gardens-for-wildlife

Greater Dandenong City Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture and Country.



This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. This publication is fully recyclable, please dispose of wisely.

It is printed carbon neutral in Victoria using vegetable based inks by an ISO 14001 Environmental Management System certified printer.

Front cover: Sustainability mascot Harry Habitat enjoying the Discover Dandenong Creek Festival in 2022.

FSC
Logo

Keysborough's Big Picnic



Join family, friends and the community for a big picnic at the park.

Keysborough's Big Picnic will feature free entertainment and activities for the whole family, so bring along your picnic rugs and chairs and have some fun.



Enjoy live music and roving performers, meet some baby animals at the petting zoo, and find a chocolate treat in the Parkmore Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Make Your Move and try out a new sport or game and bring along your furry friend to have your photo taken in the pet photobooth.

Bring your own picnic or explore the numerous food trucks and stalls on offer.

There's something for everyone at Keysborough's Big Picnic 2023 on Sunday 2 April from 11am – 4pm at Frederick Wachter Reserve, Kingsclere Avenue, Keysborough.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/keysboroughsbigpicnic for more information.



Keysborough South Community Hub



Council has awarded the building contract for the \$22 million Keysborough South Community Hub Project to Melbcon Pty Ltd.

This exciting community project has been developed in response to extensive community consultation over many years and in response to local demand for new services in the area.

The new hub will be situated at the corner of Chapel and Villiers Roads and will include a range of services, programs and flexible meeting spaces.

Key features of the Hub are consistent with previous plans developed in consultation with the community and include community meeting rooms, kindergarten and childcare rooms, maternal and child health consulting suites, a community and library lounge,



**EXCITING
COMMUNITY
PROJECT**

a reception area, kitchen and other amenities. The outside area will also include a playground, half basketball court and an amphitheatre.

Construction will start mid this year and is projected to be completed by August 2024.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/works-and-projects/keysborough-south-community-hub for more information.

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www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

TUESDAY

11
APRIL

MONDAY

24
APRIL

Council Meetings

Council meetings are held in the chambers of the Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong, commencing at 7pm.

Upcoming meetings will be held on:

- ▶ **Tuesday 11 April** (due to Easter Monday public holiday on 10 April)
- ▶ **Monday 24 April.**

You can ask questions during Public Question Time and watch our Council meetings live via our webcast service.

APRIL

Connect with us to learn about community consultation opportunities and the latest decisions made.

Hear questions from our residents and find out the many ways your Councillors are serving the community.

➔ **To view meetings online or to find out more about Public Question Time visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings**

▶ Keysborough Ward



Keysborough Ward residents will be pleased to hear of two projects underway to upgrade local sports facilities.

In 2021 Council adopted a final concept plan for Rowley Allan Reserve. Last year the first stage of the plan was completed, with a new single netball court and a quarter court (for warm-ups), lighting to competition standards, shelters and seating.

Future plans for the reserve include a second full netball court and improvements to facilities for resident sporting clubs, including the Keysborough Junior Football Club, Keysborough Football Netball Club and the Keysborough Knights Cricket Club.

The Keysborough Tennis Club is based at Frederick Wachter Reserve where it has eight courts. Recently Council recognised the court lighting was at the end of its service life and we have started the process of replacing the lights with LED competition lighting to meet Tennis Australia requirements.

The club runs competitions for juniors on a Saturday morning, seniors on a Saturday afternoon, a mid-week ladies' competition on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, and a night competition every Wednesday. The new lighting will bring the courts up to current competition standard.



Construction of stages two and three of the Frederick Wachter Reserve playground redevelopment is also underway and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The new play equipment builds upon both the 'market garden' and 'wetland' themes that were supported by the community for the final design.

Every April we celebrate our community with the Keysborough Big Picnic. This year's event is on Sunday 2 April, from 11am – 4pm, at Frederick Wachter Reserve, and will include free entertainment and activities for the whole family, including an Easter egg hunt. Bring your own picnic and spend a fun and relaxing day at the park with family and friends.



Please contact me anytime at tim.dark@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone 0466 403 914.

Cr Sean O'Reilly

► Springvale North Ward



As your representative for Springvale North Ward, I'm excited to share some great news with you.

The brand new state-of-the-art Noble Park Aquatic Centre (NPAC) gym just opened its doors and the response from locals has been fantastic.

This double-storey addition offers a large gym floor with the latest equipment for all ages and abilities, along with four dedicated new group fitness studios. There is a wellness studio, cycle studio, functional training studio and reformer pilates studio, all with the latest audio-visual technology.

The gym is also fitted with a lift and accessible change rooms on the ground level.

If you haven't visited yet take some time to discover how great this new facility is.

More exciting developments are happening across our local area, including the redevelopment of the Ross Reserve Athletics Track. While the track is currently closed for use, it will reopen in 2024 and will meet World Athletics standards, enabling it to accommodate regional and some state athletic competitions. Several successful athletics programs, including little athletics, seniors and masters clubs will have access to these new facilities. I am sure they will be thrilled.

Our youngest residents will also be excited to know that a new playground will soon be built at Glendale Reserve. Last year a half basketball court was completed, now Council is due to start further works in the park, including the installation of a playground, park furniture and landscaping.

Remember it's never too late to get active.



I'm always available to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please don't hesitate to contact me at sean.oreilly@cgd.vic.gov.au or by phone on 0422 523 258.

**2024
ENROLMENTS
NOW OPEN**

Kindergarten enrolments for 2024

Last month Greater Dandenong's newest kindergarten opened in Dandenong North.

In partnership with the Victorian School Building Authority, Council built a kindergarten at Rosewood Downs Primary School. The two-roomed kinder offers 66 places for local children across the three and four-year-old programs.

With a growing focus on kindergarten for three-year-olds, Council identified the need for more kinder places in our city.



Kindergarten (also known as preschool) is two years of early education for children before they start primary school. Children learn how to make friends and develop play-based skills, all while getting prepared for life in the classroom.



Enrolments for the 2024 kindergarten year are now open and families are encouraged to apply early to ensure a place in your preferred location. Placement offers will be sent to families in July 2023.

Three and four-year-old kinder programs are free at participating services, offering up to 15 hours per week for each age group.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/kindergarten to enrol online.

For more information email the Kindergarten Enrolment Team at ChildrenServAdminSupport@cgd.vic.gov.au or phone 8571 1817.



City Nature Challenge 2023



From Friday 28 April – Monday 1 May, Greater Dandenong City Council is teaming up with other councils across greater Melbourne to take part in the City Nature Challenge 2023.

Together let's rise to the challenge and compete with other cities around the world by recording local nature observations.



Discover Dandenong Creek Festival

Dandenong Creek is an important waterway that winds its way through Melbourne's urban landscape.

Starting in the Dandenong Ranges (Wurundjeri Country) and passing through Dandenong (Bunurong Country), Dandenong Creek flows into the Patterson River and onto Port Phillip Bay, creating a key habitat for many animals and plants.

Across the four days Council will also run an event with environmental experts to educate, inspire and energise us all into action.

To take part, register online and take photos or sound recordings of wild plants and animals using the iNaturalist app on your smartphone.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/finding-biodiversity to find out more.

The Discover Dandenong Creek Festival is a perfect opportunity to celebrate the natural marvels of this body of water and the habitat corridor it provides.

With support from Living Links, Melbourne Water and the Bunurong Land Council, you can learn about litter, recycling, biodiversity, native fish and freshwater macroinvertebrates. You can also fish for carp, meet live animals and enjoy a free barbeque (BBQ).

This free family festival is a great way to learn about protecting the creek for future generations.

Discover Dandenong Creek Festival will be held at Tirhatuan Park, Kriegel Way, Dandenong North, on Thursday 20 April from 11am–2pm.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/discover-dandenong-creek for more information.



Make Your Move this Autumn

Enjoy the many wonderful outdoor spaces, parks, reserves and playgrounds throughout Greater Dandenong this Autumn. There is so much to explore in your own backyard.



Noble Park Reserve

Visit Council's website for a list of outdoor spaces near you at greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Nature play

Visit Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve for Nature Play, an outdoor, child-led playgroup session facilitated by a qualified ranger.

Nature Play runs during school terms and is aimed at children 0–6 years old and their families.

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/greater-dandenong-council/events/nature-play

Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve Open Days

Come and explore the 2.56 hectares of natural bushland at Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve, Mackay Street, Springvale South on Fridays from 9am–3pm and on the third Sunday of the month from 10am–5pm in Autumn. You can take a guided tour or have a picnic.

Support for you and your pets

Council has a dedicated Animal Management team to support pet owners in Greater Dandenong.

From ensuring pets are registered and microchipped, to dealing with animal complaints and lost and found pets, Council works hard to help animals and people live in harmony.



Animal Management works to promote responsible pet ownership and enforce a range of local laws designed to make our city a safer place to live. Council recognises the positive health and wellbeing benefits of having pets, but works to balance the needs of pet owners, the broader community and the animals that share our lives.

By 10 April every year, cats and dogs living in Greater Dandenong should be registered. Registration allows Council Rangers to identify and reunite lost pets with their owners in a timely manner. The team oversees a Facebook page titled *Greater Dandenong Lost and Found Pets*, which is a great place to search for a pet that does not have current information attached to a microchip.



Council's Animal Management Team

Pet registration fees are used to support our animal management services, including (but not limited to) the investigation of complaints and regular patrols of parks and reserves. By microchipping your pet and keeping those details up to date you maximise your chances of being reunited with your lost animal.

Figures from 2020–21 show that 7453 dogs and 3545 cats were registered in Greater Dandenong. In that same year 34 per cent of impounded dogs were returned to their owners and just 13 per cent of cats were reunited.

The team responded to more than 2000 complaints, including 233 barking dogs and 613 wandering cats.

Council has a Domestic Animal Management Plan which guides our animal management services.

Visit [greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/pets-and-animals](https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/pets-and-animals) for more information.

New mural in Noble Park

A significant mural 'Peace and Harmony for Ukraine' has been unveiled in Noble Park in honour of our local Ukrainian community and the devastation taking place in their homeland.

Vyshyvanka (Ukrainian embroidery) has been the central feature of Ukraine's national clothing for years. More recently Vyshyvanka has become a symbol of national identity and unity.

Thank you to the Victorian Government for their generous funding support to continue joint revitalisation works in the area with support from the Noble Park Revitalisation Board.



Mayor, Cr Eden Foster, the Hon. Ros Spence MP, Mr Lee Tarlamis OAM MLC, Council CEO, Jacqui Weatherill, Roz Blades AM, former Mayor, Liana Slipetsky, President of the Noble Park branch of the Association of Ukrainians Victoria, and representatives from the Ukrainian community in Noble Park.

Upcoming immunisation sessions



Immunisation sessions are held every month for residents.

The sessions are free and provide important vaccinations to prevent diseases such as Whooping Cough, Hepatitis, Tetanus, Pneumococcal Pneumonia, Measles and Meningococcal disease. The Influenza vaccination is also recommended and available for all children from six months to five years of age.

Bookings are required for your child's immunisations, here are the sessions for April.

Date	Location
Monday 3 April	Springvale City Hall, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale
Thursday 6 April	Jan Wilson Community Centre, BJ Powell Reserve, Halton Road, Noble Park North
Thursday 13 April	Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street (enter via Harmony Square, Dandenong)
Tuesday 18 April	Paddy O'Donoghue Centre, 18-34 Buckley Street, Noble Park
Saturday 22 April	Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street (enter via Harmony Square, Dandenong)
Wednesday 26 April	Springvale City Hall, 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale



To make an appointment visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation or phone 8571 1000.



Immunisations for new arrivals

Council continues to support people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds to catch-up on their immunisations.

Since 2017 a specific program helping to protect the health of our newest community members is seeing great results.

Of the 4846 people referred to PRIME (Program for Refugee Immunisation Monitoring and Education), almost 3000 have been fully vaccinated, and many more are progressing through their catch-up schedule.

Across 2022 almost 2000 people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds were contacted by an immunisation team member to support access to COVID-19 vaccinations.

In November 2021 Council introduced a pilot program at the Noble Park English Language School to support students to receive their immunisations in the school setting. So far 136 students have commenced their catch-up vaccinations.

Newly arrived families are encouraged to contact Council's immunisation team to discuss their current vaccination levels before booking into a session.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation or phone 8571 1000 for more information.

Vaccinations for secondary students



Recent changes to the vaccination program for secondary school students have reduced the number of injections for Year 7 students.

Each year Council's Immunisation team visits all secondary schools across Greater Dandenong to provide Year 7 students with the HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) vaccination. Previously given via two injections the change means most students can now receive a single dose of the vaccination and still be fully protected.

The HPV virus affects people of all genders and is responsible for almost all cases of cervical cancers. The vaccine offers protection against nine types of the virus that are responsible for most HPV related illnesses.



Some students have fallen behind on their immunisation schedule due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, so Council has launched a catch-up service for the HPV vaccination.

Council offers a free HPV vaccine to all secondary school students over 12 years and to young adults up to 25 years. If you or someone you know is in this age group and has missed their HPV vaccination please book into one of our free immunisation sessions.



Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/immunisation or phone 8571 1000 for more information.

Something for everyone in Greater Dandenong

Reminders

- ▶ **Sunday 2 April**
Keysborough's Big Picnic
- ▶ **Sunday 2 April**
Daylight savings ends
- ▶ **Friday 7 April**
School Holidays start
- ▶ **Friday 7 April**
Good Friday Public Holiday
- ▶ **Saturday 8 April**
Easter Saturday
- ▶ **Sunday 9 April**
Easter Sunday
- ▶ **Monday 10 April**
Easter Monday Public Holiday
- ▶ **Monday 10 April**
Pet registrations due
- ▶ **Tuesday 11 April**
Council meeting
- ▶ **Thursday 20 April**
Discover Dandenong Creek Festival
- ▶ **Saturday 22 April**
Earth Day
- ▶ **Sunday 23 April**
End of School Holidays
- ▶ **Monday 24 April**
Council meeting
- ▶ **Tuesday 25 April**
ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Please visit our website and social media platforms for updates, as event details may change.



To submit your event for our website and Council news visit: greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/promote-your-event

Parkrun @ Dandenong Park,
Every Saturday, 7.45am

Weekly Friendship Seat,
visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/friendship-seat

Carers Walking Group @ Burden Park,
first Thursday of the month, 10am

All Abilities Badminton @ Springers
Leisure Centre, every Wednesday, 6pm

Multifaith Mindfulness Meditation
@ Dandenong Hospital, every Thursday,
2.30pm

Libraries at Dusk – Thursday evenings
@ Springvale and Dandenong Libraries,
6.30pm

Springvale Urban Harvest @ Springvale
Community Hub, second Saturday of the
month, 1pm



Jan Wilson Community Centre hosts a range of fun activities for all ages and abilities, including playgroup, zumba, adult fitness classes, strength training, yoga and meditation, visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-venues/jan-wilson-community-centre

Day trips throughout Victoria for local seniors To book your place on the community bus visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au or phone 8571 1000 to be connected to our Positive Ageing Team

Springvale Fresh Food Tour, Monday 24 April, 11am, to book visit drumticketing.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Creative Rise – Cultural Sketch, offering the arts community opportunities to gain skills, pass on knowledge and share experiences @ Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Tuesday 11 April, 6pm



'Optimism, Opportunities and Achievement' Exhibition @ Benga House

9 by 5 Exhibition @ Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, view artistic works from around Australia as they present their work on nine by five-inch panels, from Tuesday April 18 – Friday 7 July. Gallery hours: Tuesdays – Fridays, 12 – 4pm

Material Metaphor @ Harmony Square Windows, Dandenong, explore the reimagined landscapes of artist Rachael Wellisch, until Tuesday 16 May

'Optimism, Opportunities and Achievement': a reflection on the Centenary of Local Government in Dandenong in 1973 Exhibition @ Benga House, Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens, until 31 May, Wednesdays – Fridays, 10am – 2pm



ANZAC Day

Shape Springvale



Tell us what you would like to see in Springvale and what would make it a better place for our diverse community?

There are a range of ways to have your say including a survey, an ideas board and a mapping tool so you can add what you would like to see where.

We will use your feedback to make a plan to revitalise Springvale.

Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/shape-springvale to have your say.

Keep it clean



Council has launched a campaign to clean up our local streets.

Last year, more than 775 tonnes of rubbish was illegally dumped in Greater Dandenong.

The cost to ratepayers for Council to manage rubbish annually is \$2.9 million.

In the last four years alone, illegally dumped rubbish in the municipality increased by 20 per cent.

Mayor, Cr Eden Foster said no one wants to live around piles of rubbish.

“Our city is a treasure but it’s currently being trashed. Dumping rubbish in our public spaces, parks and residential streets is detrimental to the wellbeing of our community. Together we can solve this problem, but everyone in Greater Dandenong needs to do their bit.

“Council is constantly picking up dumped rubbish from our public spaces, parks, shopping areas and neighbourhood streets.

“Dumping rubbish is illegal, ugly, bad for the environment and bad for business,” said the Mayor.

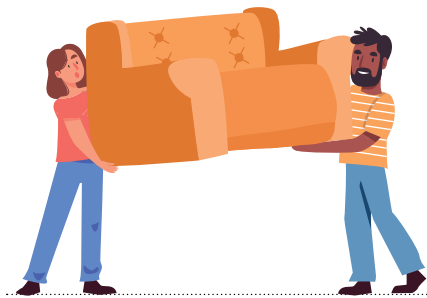
Illegally dumped rubbish is ruining Greater Dandenong’s parks, shopping areas and streets and Council is determined to change this. But to do this the community must help.

Residents, renters, property owners and businesses are all encouraged to do the right thing and dispose of their rubbish responsibly.

Council offers easy solutions. You can book a free hard rubbish collection or take advantage of the Reuse and Recycle Drop Off Days that occur several times a year. Homecycle is also available, Council’s free collection of smaller items that can be reused and recycled.

Getting your rubbish collected is free and easy.

➔ Visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/campaign-to-keep-greater-dandenong-clean or phone 8571 1000 for more information.



Day trips for seniors

Did you know Council organises fun day trips for local seniors who want to visit a variety of places throughout Victoria?

➔ If you would like to book your place on the community bus then phone 8571 5556 to speak with our Positive Ageing Team or visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/connection-seniors



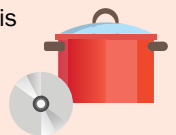
Dumping rubbish is illegal. Getting your hard rubbish collected is free and easy. Phone 8571 1000 or scan the QR code for collection.



A to Z Waste and Recycling Guide

To help support Greater Dandenong residents in sorting their waste and recycling correctly, Council’s Waste Services department has developed an A-to-Z waste and recycling guide.

Residents can use this guide to determine what waste service, event or program to use for specific items.



➔ To download this guide visit Council’s website under ‘Other Waste and Recycling Options’ at greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/other-waste-and-recycling-options

All about Autumn



Youth School Holiday Program

Council's Youth and Family Services presents **All about Autumn School Holiday activities for young people aged 12–25 years.**

Each young person can book up to five activities and are encouraged to bring their own lunch and water bottle.

Henna Masterclass

Learn the incredible skill of Henna art with Fathiah Raihan.



Tuesday 11 April
12pm–1.30pm, Free, booking required
Youth Services Office, 39 Clow Street, Dandenong

Boxing Brilliance

Get your adrenaline pumping while learning the basic skills and techniques of boxing.

Wednesday 12 April
12pm–2pm, cost is \$5, booking required
Springvale Town Hall – Supper Room 18 Grace Park Avenue, Springvale

Origami Workshop

Express your creativity with this ancient paper-sculpting artform.



Wednesday 12 April
2.30pm–3.30pm, Free, booking required
Springvale Library, 5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale

Taco Thursday

Learn how to make tacos from scratch.

Thursday 13 April
12pm–2pm, cost is \$5, booking required
Noble Park Community Centre, Memorial Drive, Noble Park

Treetops Adventure Climb

Climb atop the tallest trees for an adventure like no other.



Friday 14 April
11.30am–2pm, cost is \$25, booking required
Treetops Adventure, 21A Old Monbulk Road, Belgrave (includes transport)

Rollerblading 101

Learn how to rollerblade with incredible coach Claire Browne from Sundried Skating.

Tuesday 18 April
11am–1pm, Free, booking required
Noble Park Skatepark, Memorial Drive, Noble Park

3D Digital Design

Learn to use digital software to create a model of a 3D shape or object.

Tuesday 18 April
2.30pm–3.20pm, Free, booking required
Dandenong Library, Computer Room, 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Sea Life Wonders

An extraordinary Sea Life aquarium experience.

Wednesday 19 April
12.30pm–2.30pm, cost is \$15, booking required
Sealife Aquarium, King Street, Melbourne (includes transport)



Sports Extravaganza

Soccer, basketball, badminton and football on offer.

Thursday, 20 April
12pm–2pm, Free, booking required
Dandenong Park, 174 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

Basketball and Volleyball Tournament

Join us for the annual Autumn indoor basketball and volleyball tournament.

Friday 21 April
9.30am–4.30pm, Free, booking required
Dandenong Stadium, 270 Stud Road, Dandenong



To book visit youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/programs/holiday-activities or phone 9793 2155.



Dandenong South road closure

Glasscocks Road in Dandenong South will be closed to through traffic for major reconstruction works.

Roadworks started in early March and are expected to take 10–12 weeks to complete. During this period detours will be in place to redirect traffic via

Dandenong-Frankston Road, Abbotts Road, Thompsons Road and the Western Port Highway.

Electronic signage will be in place throughout the works to inform motorists of these detours.

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au or phone Council's Transport Team on 8571 1000.



We value the ideas and opinions of our community so 'have your say' on our current consultations by visiting our website at **greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/have-your-say**



BIG Summer Read Grand Prize winner Jasmine Perumal with Deputy Mayor, Cr Lana Formoso, entertainer Mr Snotbottom and Council's Library Services Senior Coordinator, Monique Godbehre



school holiday fun...



Origami workshop

Love your libraries

BIG Summer Read



More than 6450 books were read by over 300 local children who participated in this year's

BIG Summer Read program at Dandenong and Springvale Libraries.

Prizes were presented to children who completed the reading log and read at least 10 books over the summer.

Every child who took part in this year's BIG Summer Read received a library bag and a participation certificate.

Congratulations to everyone who took part and to local parents and guardians who encourage their young ones to read and develop their literacy skills.

Our Grand Prize winner was 7-year-old Jasmine Perumal who won a new bike. Jasmine is a regular to Greater Dandenong Libraries and was the first child to complete the 1000 books before school program in 2017.

The BIG Summer Read is part of our *Libraries Change Lives Campaign* that aims to raise awareness of the ways in which libraries can have a positive impact on the community.

School holiday fun

Hop into our Dandenong and Springvale Libraries these April school holidays to enjoy interactive programs for primary school children and young adults.



From Tuesday 11 – Friday 21 April take part in a range of fun activities, including a treasure hunt, an origami workshop, a prosthetics workshop by Engineers Without Borders-Monash, Bollywood dance by Rhythm Squad, a circus workshop by Funfit, a 3D digital workshop by PrimeSCI, Dreadful Dragons by CARP Productions, and 12 zodiacs craft by A Little Chinese Treasure, there is something for everyone.



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Libraries Change Lives

Victorian public libraries change lives by offering communities a place to learn, create and belong.

Libraries Change Lives



Visit libraries.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/libraries/events to find out what's on at your libraries.

#LibrariesChangeLives
#ReturnYourselfToTheLibrary

Great theatre, just down the road



Looking for a top-notch theatre experience in your own backyard? Look no further than the Drum Theatre.

If you haven't visited for a while there are many reasons to come back, starting with this season's range of wonderful live performances including comedy, music and theatre for people of all ages.

From swingin' jazz and music legends to new stories, you can see the familiar, the challenging, the nostalgic and the brand new.

April is for laughs

Melbourne International Comedy Festival: Neighbourhood Sessions
Saturday 1 April, 8pm

For one-night only the Drum Theatre will play host to some of the biggest names in comedy, alongside illustrious festival favourites and some of the country's best new talent.



Jimeoin – The Craic

Saturday 15 April, 7.30pm

The press say that he's at the very top of his game, we absolutely agree.



Stephen K Amos: Before and Laughter

Sunday 23 April, 7.30pm

Fresh from treading the boards in London's West End, Stephen is back doing what he does best: stand-up comedy.

Family fun these school holidays



Bunkasaurus

Workshop: Thursday 13 April, 2pm

Performances: Friday 14 April, 11am and 2pm

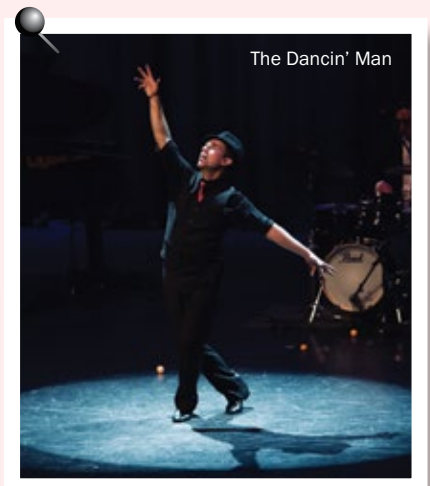
In Bunkasaurus, two clowns are continually distracted from the serious work at hand, stacking boxes in a warehouse. They fall into a world of puppetry and silent comedy, blissfully creating an entertaining universe soaked in imagination and creativity.



The Quizzical Mr Jeff

Wednesday 19 April, 11am

With years of experience on international stages and in the circus ring, his work hones his skill in transporting audiences to a state of wonder and play.



The Dancin' Man

Thursday 20 April, 10.30am

Join us for this all-singing, all-dancing one-man show.

Up close and personal high energy entertainment, Luke Alleva dances through the classic decades when music and dance had style, grace, and charisma, accompanied by a three-piece band.

To book your tickets visit
drum.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Great place to do business



As Greater Dandenong's newest Corporate Citizen of the Year, Peter Angelico says our city is a "great place to do business".

For the past 30 years Mr Angelico's steel component manufacturing business ABECK Group has called Greater Dandenong home. For the past 10 years he has shared his knowledge, experience and passion as a long time board member and (since 2019) President of South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA).

In January Mr Angelico was named the Corporate Citizen of the Year at the 2023 Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards.

"Making a contribution to the community is so important and as business owners I think we have a responsibility to put back into the community," Mr Angelico said.

As a passionate advocate for local manufacturing Mr Angelico points out that Greater Dandenong is a central part of the south east region manufacturing base, accounting for 44 per cent of all manufacturing in Victoria.

He is also a strong voice for careers in manufacturing. Last year, with Federal Government funding and under Mr Angelico's direction SEMMA successfully launched a free Welding Skills Short Course to address a national shortage of welders.

"The distinctive 'SEMMA Welding School', was designed by a SEMMA member five years ago and has now been run twice and out of all the people who went through it, 92 per cent found jobs and apprenticeships, providing long-term careers for all ages," he said.

Mr Angelico said manufacturing in Australia was a growing industry and encouraged people to consider careers in the sector.

 Visit semma.org.au for more information.



Looking to develop, relocate, invest or start a business in Greater Dandenong?

Contact Council's business team to learn how they can support you and your business.

For more information:

► business@cgd.vic.gov.au

► 8571 1550

► greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/business



Charity golf day biggest to date



The Take a Swing for Charity Golf Day marked its 14th event by raising more money than any other year.

Since the charity event began more than \$560,000 has been raised to provide significant support to the Greater Dandenong community.

About 100 players enjoyed a round of golf at Victoria Golf Course recently joining forces to raise more than \$50,000 for charity.

One extra generous donor gave \$10,000 and one lucky player took home a \$500 prize in the putting competition.

Mayor, Cr Eden Foster thanked the sponsors and business community who gave back to those in need.



Deputy Mayor Cr Lana Formoso with Manager of Business Networking Sandra George and representatives from Take a Swing sponsors and charity organisation This is IT.

"The funds raised so far have provided school uniforms, books and material aid, as well as service improvements in home medical care and mental health, and food security through the purchase of refrigeration and vans for safe food delivery.

"The lives of people living with disabilities have also been enhanced with the creation of new sensory

gardens and the purchase of new lifting equipment," the Mayor said.

This year's charity recipient is the This is IT Schools program, which will equip many secondary school students with laptops – equalising education for all.

The event was sponsored by KPJ Group, Grenda Group, Macpherson & Kelley, Telstra Business Technology Centre, Ashfords, Erntec and Dandenong Nissan and Kia.

Free smoke alarms



Noble Park CFA is offering free smoke alarms, including installation, to all households in Greater Dandenong.

Captain Matthew Pond said the program was a chance to make sure all households in the city were protected from fires.

"We have always advertised how important it is to have working smoke alarms and to change your batteries every year, but often smoke alarms aren't fitted properly, or they have aged and don't work anymore.

"With this program we are offering to come out and inspect properties to see what they need to be safe. We can then install as many smoke alarms as properties need to make them safe," Captain Pond said.

The new smoke alarms are fitted with a 10-year lithium battery. The alarms will also be affixed to the ceiling with a strong velcro, meaning no holes are needed to be drilled nor any permanent marks left behind.

FREE

He said every household in Greater Dandenong could take advantage of the program, including renters and even people who were physically capable of fitting smoke alarms themselves.

"We just want everyone to be safe," Captain Pond said.

Residents are encouraged to contact the Noble Park CFA and make a time for a qualified member to inspect their home.



Email noblepark.bmt@members.cfa.vic.gov.au or phone **0429 487 448** to book an inspection.

Protect yourself and others



Anyone can get sick from COVID-19, but some people are more vulnerable to severe illness if they have existing health problems or are older.

We can all take steps right now to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to protect ourselves, our loved ones and the wider community.

Free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) and N95 face masks are now available for all community members at the following locations:

- ▶ Dandenong Customer Service Centre
- ▶ Dandenong Library
- ▶ Jan Wilson Community Centre
- ▶ Springvale Community Hub
- ▶ Parkmore Council Customer Service Centre
- ▶ Drum Theatre
- ▶ Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre.

If you are part of a community organisation that would like to order RATs or N95 masks in bulk, please contact our Emergency Management team at emergency.management@cgd.vic.gov.au

For more information visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/covid-19

U3A Dandenong

Are you aged over 50 and retired or semi-retired and have a desire to keep your brain and body active? Do you have skills and knowledge you are keen to share, or do you simply want to make new friends and social connections?

U3A (University of the Third Age) Dandenong offers a wide range of activities all managed and run by volunteers.



Membership costs \$70 per year and all activities are held on weekdays. The first semester runs until 23 June and the second semester runs from 24 July to 24 November.



Visit dandenongu3a.org.au for more information.

Health and wellbeing corner



Did you know that one in five people experience mental illness?

For more information and to connect with local support services visit greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/mental-health

If you come from a multi-cultural community do you know about Heart Chat? This service provides information on health and wellbeing in many different languages.

For more information visit heartchat.com.au

Multicultural Health Connect is also available to support you, the first national helpline to help people in multicultural communities get health information and advice.

The helpline is free and confidential and run by workers from multicultural backgrounds.

When you call Multicultural Health Connect, you will speak with a trained worker who understands and respects your culture, needs and concerns. They can help you in your language or with the help of an interpreter.

For more information visit healthdirect.gov.au/multicultural-health-connect

Trashed or treasured?



Dumping rubbish is illegal.
Getting your hard rubbish collected is free and easy.
Phone 8571 1000 or scan the QR code for collection.

